

Fremont Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 5, 2008

Attendance: Janice O'Brien, Jack Karcz, Jean Ragonese, Tina Sturdivant, Matthew Thomas.

Meeting began at 7:09 PM

Glen Oaks

Mrs. Ragonese joined the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Property Evaluation

The members present performed a property evaluation using the open space criteria form and NRI maps to rate property owned by Landowner G. The parcel size is approximately 30 acres and there is no structure on the property. The property scored a 35 out of a possible 100. The consensus of the members that this parcel does not meet the criteria and is not something the OSC would be interested in preserving or recommending to the CC for preservation.

Mr. Thomas joined the meeting at 7:30 PM.

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from December was made by Mr. Karcz and seconded by Mr. Thomas. All others members were in favor of accepting minutes.

Larry and Jessica Lubowski did their Glen Oakes walk on January 27, 2008. They were not present at tonight's meeting.

Mrs. Sturdivant and her husband performed a walk in the Glen Oakes property on December 26, 2006. She reported sighting evidence of track vehicles on the trails and that one of the Town Ordinance signs was indeed gone from the installation site. This will be replaced in the spring.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien have gone into Glen Oakes on numerous times over the past two months and seen many wildlife tracks including: grey fox, fisher cat, moose deer, snowshoe hare and potentially bobcat. Mr. O'Brien saw Charlie Moreno in Glen Oakes working on data collection for the Management Plan.

The Rockingham County Woodland Owners Association has asked Mr. Cordes and Mr. Bolduc if they can have their annual spring walk in Glen Oakes on May 10, 2008. There are plans to contact Dave Anderson from SPNFH to lead the walk. There is a need for people from Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee to volunteer and participate in the walk. Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien and Mrs. Sturdivant are planning to attend

Mrs. O'Brien reported that there is a Fremont Family that has begun to map the Glen Oakes trails using GPS, more information to come in the future.

Ideas for activities within the Glen Oakes Property were discussed. Mr. Thomas volunteered to lead a Historical Walk Through Glen Oakes on May 3, 2008. There was a general conversation about the walk route and access point. The walk will be advertised in the newsletter. Mrs. O'Brien and Mr. Thomas are going to organize this walk. A vernal pool workshop or a turtle walk was also mentioned. Mrs. O'Brien thought that it would be a good idea to get in touch with Mark West.

Mrs. Sturdivant reported back to the members about the Owl Walk that took place on December 9, 2007. About thirty adults and children attended the walk. No owl responses were heard, but Mr. Bronson gave useful information and mimicked owl calls. Mrs. Sturdivant created a survey for participants to respond for feedback about the walk. All returned surveys contained favorable ratings for the Owl Walk and all respondents would like to participate in other activities sponsored by the CC or OSC. Mrs. Sturdivant is interested in organizing another Owl Walk in early 2009 during the nesting season when owl responses are more likely to be heard.

Audubon Backyard Bird Survey is this weekend February 9 and 10, 2008. Mr. Karcz, Mrs. Sturdivant and Mrs. O'Brien may be participating.

Mrs. O'Brien thanked Mrs. Ragonese for creating the Open Space Committee Information Board that was on display at the recent elections in January. Mrs. O'Brien asked if people would be willing to man the Prime Wetland Designation and Open Space Committee Information Display Boards for the town elections in March.

Next months meeting will be on April 1, 2007 at 7 PM on the main floor of Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ragonese and seconded by Mr. Thomas. Meeting ended at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Sturdivant